

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs State Board of Psychological Examiners 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 PAULA T. Dow Attorney General

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor May 10, 2010

SHARON M. JOYCE
Acting Director

FILED WITH THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 45017 Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 504-6470

By Certified and Regular Mail

Marion Rollings, Ph.D. 101 New Amwell Road Hillsbrough, New Jersey 08844

Re: Offer of Settlement In Lieu of Filing a Formal Disciplinary Complaint

Dear Dr. Rollings.

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Psychological Examiners (the "Board") has had an opportunity to review information alleging that you provided psychological services while employed as a therapist from November 2002 through April 2004 at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center located in Somerset, New Jersey prior to obtaining your license to practice psychology. Specifically, the information reviewed alleged that you provided stress management, counseling and hypnosis services to patients at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center.

At the investigative inquiry that you attended with your attorney, James Wulach, Esquire, you confirmed that your were hired as a therapist at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center which is a private practice owned by Marie Scodari, a licensed social worker who agreed to provide you with supervision from a psychologist to obtain your hours for licensure. It was your testimony that after working at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center for one week you learned that no psychologist was present on staff to provide you supervision but you continued to work at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center as a therapist for approximately two years. The Inner Light Center is a private practice and is not a board approved exempt setting. You also testified that it was your belief that as a pastoral counselor you could provide the therapy services at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center as you are a minister for the Open Door Ministries. Your testimony confirmed that you left the employment of the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center when you obtained a permit to

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accumulate hours for your license and worked under the supervision of Dr. Ettin in approximately 2004.

Upon review of all available information, it appears to the Board that you engaged in activities constituting the practice of psychology during your employment as a therapist at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center from 2002 to 2004 in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:14B-5 at which time you were not a holder of a licensed to practice psychology. It appears to the Board that The Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center was a private facility and as such you were not permitted to provide psychological services as a pastoral counselor in this setting.

At this juncture, the Board has preliminarily concluded that the above violations are sufficient to warrant the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings against you. Notwithstanding that decision, however, the Board has determined that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter, and thereby avoid the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, should you consent to:

- 1. A reprimand for engaging in the activities which constituted the practice of psychology while employed as a therapist at the Inner Light Counseling and Holistic Center for a two year period in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:14B-5.
- 2. Pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$2000.00 which represents a penalty for violation of N.J.S.A. 45:14B-5 (to be paid immediately upon your signing of the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter. Payment is to be remitted to the attention of J. Michael Walker, Executive Director, Board of Psychological Examiners, P.O. Box 45017, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

If you are willing to settle this matter on the offered settlement terms, you may do so by signing the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, and returning it to the Board office. Upon your signature, this letter will be a matter of public record.

In the event you are unwilling to settle this matter on the offered terms, it will be referred to the Attorney General's office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement action. In such event, you will be afforded an opportunity to defend against the alleged violations. If an evidentiary hearing is deemed warranted the Board will either conduct that hearing at a date and time to be scheduled or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law. You are advised, however, that in the event formal charges are filed, the Board may assess civil penalties in an amount greater than that herein offered in settlement should any charges against you be sustained. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an order, requiring you to reimburse certain monies and/or requiring you to pay costs incurred by the Board. Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the settlement offer herein, I suggest that you contact your attorney, Mr. Wulach who can relate your concerns to Deputy Attorney General, Carmen A. Rodriguez at (973) 648-3696.

If you elect to settle this matter presently, you should sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Board within fifteen (15) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within fifteen (15) days,

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the Board's settlement offer will be withdrawn, and the matter will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement proceedings.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

By: <u>J. / Aca</u>

Executive Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: I, Marion Rollings, Ph.D., hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the settlement proposal set forth in the above letter. I acknowledge the conduct which has been charged. I am aware that, by signing this acknowledgment, I am waiving any rights I may have to defend myself against any charges of wrongdoing at an administrative hearing. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that this letter is a public document. I hereby agree to a formal reprimand and to pay a penalty in the amount of \$2000. (to be paid upon signing of this acknowledgment).

Dated:

c:

James Wulach, Esquire

Carmen A. Rodriguez, Deputy Attorney General